

CHAPTER 11.0 GLOSSARY

39-Mile District	A 39-mile segment of the Missouri National Recreational River extending from Fort Randall Dam near Pickstown, South Dakota to Lewis and Clark Lake. This segment also includes 20 miles of the Niobrara River from the Knox County line and 8 miles of Verdigre Creek.
59-Mile District	A 59-mile segment of the Missouri National Recreational River extending from Gavins Point Dam near Yankton, South Dakota to Ponca State Park, near Ponca, Nebraska.
acquisitions	Acquisitions are parcels acquired for right-of-way or when access can no longer be maintained.
adaptive management	A strategy that uses collaboration, planning and science while measuring performance over time to sort out the individual components of a complex ecological system. By understanding how the components work together, better management decisions can be made
avoidance alternative	An alternative that avoids impacts to aquatic habitat (wetlands and other waters of the U.S.)
aggradation	The process of raising a surface by the deposition of detritus (in the case of N-12, fine sand with some silt)
backslope drain	Also known as hydrauger drains. This is a drain that is drilled into the backslope to help reduce water levels (pore pressure) in the shale materials.
biologically unique landscape	A specifically selected landscape that offers some of the best opportunities for conserving the full array of biological diversity in Nebraska. Landscapes were selected based on known occurrences of ecological communities and at-risk species and were selected to meet the goals that NGPC had set for each community type and Tier I species.
carrying capacity	The size of a population that can live indefinitely in an environment without degrading that environment.
Class A state resource waters	Class A state resource waters are waters of very high quality or having unique features that have been recognized by society that are within national or state parks, wildlife refuges, or wild and scenic river systems.

critical habitat	“The specific areas within the geographical area occupied by the species, at the time it is listed in accordance with the [Endangered Species Act]..., on which are found those physical or biological features (I) essential to the conservation of the species and (II) which may require special management considerations or protection; and (ii) specific areas outside the geographical area occupied by the species at the time it is listed..., upon a determination by the Secretary that such areas are essential for the conservation of the species” (16 USC 1532).
cubic foot per second	One cubic foot per second (cfs) equates to 7.48 gallons per second. Cfs is a common unit used to measure discharge. The rate of flow of a creek, river, or flood is measured by quantity over time. This is often referred to as discharge, or the rate at which a volume of water passes a given point in a given amount of time.
cumulative impact	A cumulative impact is defined as “the impact on the environment which results from the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions regardless of what agency (Federal or non-Federal) or person undertakes such other actions” (40 CFR 1508.7)
delta	A triangular tract of alluvial land formed at the mouth of a river, and enclosed or traversed by its diverging bodies.
designated beneficial uses	A designated beneficial use is any use of surface waters where water quality can affect the use. Beneficial uses include aesthetics, agricultural water supply, public drinking water supply, recreation in and on the water, and support and propagation of fish and other aquatic life.
direct effects	Direct effects are those that would occur as a direct result from implementing one of the alternatives and occur at the time of the project and within the footprint of the alternatives. Most direct effects would occur from the construction of the alternative.
ecoregion	A relatively large unit of land and water delineated by the biotic and abiotic factors (for example, climate, topography, geology, and vegetation) that regulate the structure and function of the ecosystems within it.
eminent domain	Eminent domain is the power of the federal or state government to take private property for a public purpose, even if the property owner objects. The Fifth Amendment to the United States Constitution allows the government to take private property if the taking is for a public use and the owner is “justly compensated” (usually, paid fair market value) for his or her loss. A public use is virtually anything that is sanctioned by a federal or state legislative body. Such uses may include roads, parks, reservoirs, schools, hospitals, or other public buildings.

FEMA designated Floodplain	A Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) designated Floodplain is generally viewed as all lands within reach of a 100-year flood outside of the floodway.
FEMA designated Floodway	The channel of a river or other watercourse and the adjacent land areas that must be reserved in order to discharge the base flood (the 100-year flood) without cumulatively increasing the water surface elevation more than a designated height (typically, no rise is allowed).
floodplain	The area adjacent to a watercourse, including the floodway, inundated by a particular flood event.
floodway	The channel and any adjacent floodplain areas that must be kept free of encroachment to ensure that the 100-year (1 percent annual chance) flood is conveyed without increasing the flood height by more than 1 foot.
flowage easement land	Flowage easement land is privately owned land on which the United States government has acquired certain perpetual rights, including the right to flood it, the right to prohibit construction or maintenance of a habitable structure, and the right of ingress and egress across the land. Landowners may receive payments for the easement.
geogrid	A geogrid is a geosynthetic material, such as polyester, polyethylene, or polypropylene, used to reinforce soils.
hydrophytes	Plants that grow wholly or partially in water. Water lilies are an example of this type of vegetation.
indirect effects	Indirect effects are those that also result from the project but occur later in time and would occur outside of the footprint of the alternatives (40 CFR 1508.8).
least environmentally damaging practicable alternative	An environmental permitting term used to specify which of the proposed alternatives is the least damaging to the environment. The Section 404(b)(1) guidelines only allow the Corps to authorize the LEDPA, unless the other alternatives have unacceptable environmental impacts.
Letter of Map Change	“LOMCs are documents issued by FEMA that revise or amend the flood hazard information shown on the FIRM without requiring the FIRM to be physically revised and republished” (FEMA, April 11, 2006). A LOMC can consist of a Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) or a Letter of Map Amendment (LOMA).
Lewis and Clark Lake Sediment Management Study (LCLSMS)	An engineering study that examines the possibilities for moving sediment in the Lewis and Clark Lake delta by mechanically controlling water levels and flows.
long-term effects	Long-term impacts are expected to be permanent (for example, roadbed and bridges) or would occur over the life of the project.

Missouri National Recreational River	The MNRR comprises two remnant free-flowing reaches of the Missouri River, separated by Lewis and Clark Lake along the Nebraska–South Dakota boundary. The eastern portion (the 59-Mile District) starts one mile downstream from Gavins Point Dam near Yankton, South Dakota, and continues downriver to Ponca, Nebraska. The western portion (the 39-Mile District), and the focus of this evaluation, starts immediately downstream from Fort Randall Dam near Pickstown, South Dakota (river mile [RM] 880), and continues downriver to Running Water, South Dakota (RM 840). At the same time that the 39-Mile District was established, the lower 20 miles (32 km) of the Niobrara River and the lower 8 miles (13 km) of Verdigre Creek were also designated as recreational rivers (NPS 2005).
Missouri River Mainstem System	The largest reservoir system in North America made up of a system of six dams and reservoirs on the Missouri River in Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota and Nebraska constructed by the Corps and the Bureau of Land Management.
Missouri River Recovery Program	A partnership among the Corps, USFWS, Tribal nations, states and other agencies to develop and implement recovery actions for the Missouri River.
NDOR's 28-foot-section program	NDOR adopted a policy in 2002 to provide a 28-foot paved roadway surface for state highways with average daily traffic between 850 and 3,000 vehicles per day. This policy includes providing a pavement stripe 2 feet from the edge of pavement, and is very beneficial to experienced road cyclists. It both defines the vehicular travel lane and provides a defined route for bicyclists (RDG 2004).
NNHP ranking system	<p>Natural community types are ranked using the following system to help determine conservation priorities:</p> <p>S2 = Imperiled in the state – at high risk of extirpation or elimination due to extreme very restricted range, very few occurrences, steep declines, or other factors.</p> <p>S3 = Vulnerable in the state – at moderate risk of extirpation or elimination due to a restricted range, relatively few occurrences, recent and widespread declines, or other factors.</p> <p>S4 = Apparently secure in the state – uncommon, but not rare, some cause for long-term concern due to declines or other factors.</p> <p>S5 = Secure in the state – common, widespread and abundant.</p>
no-rise certification	Before any building, grading, or development permits involving activities in a regulatory floodway can be issued, it is necessary to obtain no-rise certification, stating that the proposed development will not impact the pre-project base flood elevations (100-year flood), floodway elevations, or floodway widths.

obligate hydrophytes	Obligate hydrophytes are species that are found only in wetlands, such as cattail.
outstandingly remarkable value	Defined by the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act as the characteristics that make a river worthy of special protection. An ORV must be river-related or dependent and must be rare, unique or exemplary at a comparative regional or national scale.
persistent emergents	Emergent hydrophytes (plants that grow wholly or partly submerged in water) that normally remain standing at least until the beginning of the next growing season.
Pierre shale	A geologic formation that occurs in the Great Plains from North Dakota to New Mexico. It is of marine origin, fossiliferous, with veins and seams of gypsum and concentrations of iron oxide.
practicable	An alternative is practicable if it is available and capable of being done after taking into consideration cost, existing technology and logistics in light of the overall project purpose (40 CFR 230.10(a)(2)).
preliminary engineering	Efforts require to develop a final design for construction of an alternative.
Recreational Trails Program (RTP)	The RTP provides funds to states to develop and maintain recreational trails and trail-related facilities for both nonmotorized and motorized recreational trail uses. The RTP is an assistance program of FHWA.
relocations	Relocations are residences, businesses, and other buildings that are moved when the land is acquired.
right-of-way (ROW)	ROW is land acquired by purchase, gift, or eminent domain in order to build and maintain a public road (NDOR 1998).
sedimentation	The process of letting suspended material settle by gravity.
shear key	Shear keys are placed at the base of fill slopes, are 10 feet wide, and consist of rock. The depth of shear keys depends on the depth of the shale, from grade to top of shale. Shear keys are placed from the toe of the fill slope down approximately 3 feet into the shale. They are designed on a case-by-case basis after detailed borings have been taken and shale has been located to an acceptable degree.
short-term effects	For the purposes of this analysis, short-term impacts are estimated to persist for five years following disturbance and would result primarily from temporary construction disturbances that would either be reclaimed (for example, the two-lane temporary roadway) or would cease (for example, construction noise).

significant nexus	A significant nexus exists when it is demonstrated that the tributary and/or wetland along with any other, similarly situated wetlands, has “more than a speculative or insubstantial effect on the chemical, physical and biological integrity of a traditional navigable water.”
shoofly connection	A temporary stretch of road that conveys traffic around construction activities.
toe berm	This is a fill placed at the toe of slope to act as counterweight and help prevent embankment failure.
toe keys	Another term for this is Toe-of-Fill Key (used when placing fill on a slope). It is a keywat that extends a minimum of 2 feet into intact foundation materials on the downslope side. Engineered fill is placed within this key. A drain tile is placed in the bottom with some granular material to drain any water that may collect in the toe key.
total cost estimate	The total cost estimate for each alternative includes preliminary engineering, roadway and grading (culverts, seeding, bridge, guardrail, surfacing, and general items), ROW acquisition and parcel access, utility relocation, and construction engineering.
traditional navigable water	Waterbodies that are “currently used, or were used in the past, or may be susceptible to use in interstate or foreign commerce” (33 C.F.R. §328.3(a)(1); 40 C.F.R. § 230.3(s)(1)) or “navigable-in-fact.”
waters of the U.S.	Waters of the U.S., including wetlands, waterways, lakes, natural ponds, and impoundments, are regulated by the Corps under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, which requires a permit to authorize the discharge or dredged or fill material into waters of the U.S. (33 USC 1344).
wetlands	“Those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions” (33 CFR 328).
Wild and Scenic Rivers Act	A congressional act establishing a method for providing federal protection for the nation’s remaining free-flowing rivers and preserving them and their immediate environments for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations.